

RC040

**F/V Arctic Dawn
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Alaska Board of Fisheries
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Chairman Jensen and Board of Fisheries Members,

I am an active Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnetter having participated for 34 years and plan on doing this for many more years. My father was an active participant in the early pioneer years as a seiner and later years as a gillnetter as well as my son actively participating gillnetting with me as a deckhand who in a few years may make fishing as a career. As you can see my family has made gillnetting a livelihood for three generations.

Over the years I have seen our reliance fishing wild stocks of sockeye and chums chasing them district to district during their peak runs throughout southeast only to now have diminished and giving way to the abundance of returning chums in terminal release areas. These areas are now the lifeblood of our gear groups and communities. Much of my income derive from enhanced chum and areas such as Anita Bay. I believe all gear groups need to have fair access and balanced allocation to the resource since we all contribute to the development of these fisheries. I stand united with USAG and their comments on Proposals 132, 133, 137, 139 - 146, 149 – 158, 160, 169 – 171 and 192 – 194.

I ask you to carefully think about the fairness and balance of allocation between gear groups when you decide to cast your vote. Many families depend upon your decision.

Thank you for your time,

Ed Tagaban